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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Arctic)

REPORT

SUBJECT Soviet Naval Vessels and Aircraft
Observed in Kola Bay and Arkhangelsk

DATE DISTR. 19 December 1958

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REFERENCES

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DATE OF
INFO.PLACE &
DATE ACQ.

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

Soviet naval vessels and aircraft observed in Kola Bay
and Arkhangelsk

Att. No. Vessels

1 Kola Bay: Several unidentified naval vessels; two vessels conducting unknown underwater work; three large modern naval vessels

four naval vessels in a floating dock in Vayenga Bay; 26 MTBs on the beach near Velikiy Point, ready for launching; "large" vessel at Pinagoriy Point; seven four-engine propeller-driven seaplanes; fuel tanks observed on the outermost island in Gryaznaya Bay.

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2 Kola Bay: Two "large" naval vessels

two smaller vessels
eight unidentified vessels, laying side by side in Rosta Shipyard, with scaffolding around their masts
submarine and seven smaller submarines, spotted with red lead; vessel damaged seaplane being towed toward Gryaznaya Bay.

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Arkhangelsk: Four submarines of the same class, one under tow, length about 260 feet, conning towers straight fore and sloping aft

19 aircraft seen at Kegostrov Airfield, nine of which were four-engine transport planes; parachute jumping exercises; dredging operations near Dvina Lightship for Sawmill 5/7 to a draft of 21 feet.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET

COUNTRY: U.S.S.R.

25X1

SUBJECT: Port Report KOLA INLET

DATE OF INFORMATION:

PLACE AND DATE ACQUIRED:

1. NAVY.

[redacted] off LETINSKI Pt. a motor torpedo boat was observed which came in from the direction of KILDIN ISL. and continued in the KOLA INLET.

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In OLENYA BAY an undetermined number of naval vessels of different types were observed at anchor.

[redacted] 2 vessels were observed at anchor near BRANAVAHKTA ISL. . It looked as though underwater work was in progress. From one of the vessels wires were run over the side from the quarter deck and down into the sea. The other vessel had wires run over the stern and down into the sea. A number of the crew followed with interest some action clearly taking place underwater but what this was could not be observed. Both vessels were painted grey and flew a blue flag.

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[redacted] three large naval vessels were observed at anchor in VAYENGA BAY.

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Description: [redacted] Two of the vessels were alike, they appeared to be very modern. Two triple gun turrets forward, command-turret with mast and numerous secondary artillery mounted round this. Mast in the rear of the command turret, one funnel with a helmet formed smoke cover, two triple turrets on the quarter deck. The third vessel was about the same size as the two others but seemed lower. Two triple gun turrets forward, command turret with mast at the rear, two similar funnels, one or two triple turrets aft.

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In a large floating dock in VAYENGA BAY four naval vessels were observed, laying in a double row. By VARLAMOVSKIE ISL. an other floating dock was observed but this was empty.

On the beach from VELIKI Pt. and northwards, altogether 26 MTBs were observed that were ready for launching. The boats were guarded.

At the shipyard at ROSTA a large naval vessel, two smaller and one or two rather small vessels were observed.

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[redacted] 1 nautical mile north of PINAGORI Pt. a large naval vessel was observed at anchor.

Description: [redacted] Two triple turrets forward, two funnels, secondary artillery at the side of the control turret, one or two triple turrets aft.

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[redacted] 6 naval vessels were observed in VAYENGA BAY.

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Description: Three were of the same type as the two with helmet formed smoke covers over the funnel, observed [redacted] in the same position.

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Two others were of the same type [redacted] observed at PINAGORI Pt.

The sixth vessel was a little smaller than the other five.

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[redacted] One gun turret forward. Number of guns not observed. Two funnels, each with one mast in front.

In the floating dock at VAYENGA a medium sized naval vessel was now observed.

[redacted] south of TOROS ISL. an anchored naval vessel was observed, considerably smaller than the vessels in VAYENGA.

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Description: Two gun turrets or gun shields forward, possibly with two guns in each, bridge house rather straight in front, short mast aft of the bridge house, a small gun with shield each side just forward of the bridge house. Two funnels - the fore proportionately thick and low, the aft was placed close to the forward funnel but leaning aft. Casing or deck house on the quarter deck with minor artillery on top, one torpedo gun on the side of the casing, the casing running completely aft to the stern.

Approx. 1 1/2 to 2 n.m. north of LETINSKI Pt. 6 large mooring buoys were observed, which must have been put out after 15 July. The mooring buoys were painted black on the sides and white on top, the tops were flat with large and strong ring straps.

2. AIRCRAFT.

[redacted] a large, four engined propeller driven sea plane was observed which taxied to and fro between VAYENGA and VARLAMOVA BAY. From one of the engines (which turned over slowly) a heavy flame and black smoke was observed but the smoke as well as the flame disappeared when the engine was revved up.

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[redacted] 6 large four engined propeller driven sea planes were observed, these were of the same type as the one observed [redacted]. These stood on a slipway on the beach on the NE side of VAYENGA BAY. One of the planes was being prepared for launching.

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3. TANK CONSTRUCTIONS.

[redacted] on the outermost island in GRYAZNAY BAY tank constructions were observed. Two cylindrical, unpainted and rather rusty tanks were visible. A tanker - the size of and rather like a T-2 tanker - lay near the construction. [redacted]

[redacted] probably the tanker lay at a jetty because there appeared to be mooring-wires running ashore.

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COUNTRY: **U.S.S.R.**

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SUBJECT: Port Report MURMANSK

DATE OF INFORMATION:

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PLACE AND DATE ACQUIRED:

1. NAVY.

1 large and 2 smaller naval vessels were moored to buoys in VAYENGA BAY.

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Description: The largest vessel had [redacted] Length over 600 feet, on the fore deck 2 gun turrets with 3 runs in each, high mid-ship building with mast at the rear, one straight funnel, mast, funnel, deck house and 2 gun turrets the same as on the fore deck.

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The other two vessels were alike [redacted] length approx. 275 feet, 2 gun turrets on the forecastle, bridge with a large object on the top, two masts and two funnels. On the quarter deck a house or casing, a gun and a gun turret further aft.

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Passing ROSTA 2 August a large vessel [redacted] was observed.

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[redacted] it was screened by 8 smaller vessels laying side by side on the outside. All of these vessels had scaffolding around the masts. They were spotted with red-lead and appeared to undergo a comprehensive overhaul.

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[redacted] all were of the same appearance

[redacted] they were tied up together

Along the quay at the ship yard lay a submarine

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[redacted] It was approx. 300 feet long, dark grey with some spots of red-lead. The conning tower was high and without steps or projections. 7 other, smaller submarines, could be seen behind a vessel. They were spotted with red-lead

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Further south in the ship yard area were 4 naval vessels moored side by side. These vessels also had scaffolding around the masts. [redacted] they were moored behind a large lighter.

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Several other naval vessels were laying at the ship yard,

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[redacted]
[redacted] a naval vessel
went out from VAYENGA BAY heading out the inlet. [redacted]

2. AIRCRAFT.

[redacted] 2 aircraft in the air [redacted] over MURMANSK. They flew very
high and could hardly be distinguished. 25X1

[redacted] a sea-plane was towed in towards GRASJNYA GUBA
by a motor boat. The aircraft, similar to a CATALINA, was
probably damaged as the float on the starboard wing was
missing and part of the wing was loose. 25X1

3. THE HARBOUR.

[redacted] The bay
on the north side was filled with mud, planks and other
rubbish. The same was the case on the beach south of the quay. 25X1

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COUNTRY: U.S.S.R.

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SUBJECT: Port Report ARCHANGEL

DATE OF INFORMATION:

DATE AND PLACE ACQUIRED:

1. NAVY.

3 submarines were observed 25X1 along side the quay, a fourth was being towed in by 2 tug-boats.

Description: All the submarines seemed alike, length estimated to 260 ft., conning tower straight in front, sloping at the rear. No visible artillery or other equipment on the fore or after deck.

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2. AIRPORT.

OSTROV.

the entrance was closed with a bar. At this point was also a small house, a guard dressed in khaki and armed with a carbine was on guard between the house and the bar.

On the road up to the airport a group of 6 men and later a group of 3. All were dressed alike in a dark blue uniform with wings on the breast, also wearing blue peaked caps with wings for a cap badge, some also had gold rings around the sleeves. they were 25X1 civilian pilots.

At the airport 19 aircraft which were parked at different points. 9 of them were 4-engined transport planes but the remainder were twin- and single engined.

A solitary yellow painted tank-car was parked at the side of a low building.

there was parachute jumping on two different occasions over the airport. The first time two men jumped from the same single engined aircraft from a height of 4-500 meters. The second time a man jumped alone, probably from the same aircraft.

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3. DREDGING OPERATIONS.

Dredging operations were carried out approx. 3 nautical miles past DVINA LIGHTSHIP. the dredging

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